The University of Chicago

A GROUP OF GOSPELS MANUSCRIPTS

A PART OF A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO
THE GRADUATE FACULTY IN CANDIDACY FOR
THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

DEPARTMENT OF NEW TESTAMENT AND EARLY
CHRISTIAN LITERATURE
1930

By
SAMUEL ANTOINE CARTLEDGE

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The Nicolaus Gospels

The Nicolaus Gospels manuscript is a beautifully written little codex of 219 ff. measuring 12.5 by 9.5-10 cm. Each page has one column of 25 lines measuring 8.3 by 7 cm. The folios are numbered in pencil to 222, but three are missing, 4, 61, and 149. Ff. 1-193 are of rather good parchment, except f. 41, which is of paper and was inserted when the synaxarion and menology were, being written by the same hand. The ff. 194-221, which contain the synaxarion and menology, are paper and contain watermarks which date that at the close of the 15th century. Scribal colophons on ff. 192b and 193a tell us that the manuscript proper was written by the monk Nicolaus in Edessa and was finished May 4, 1133. There are red capitals in the margin. The chapter titles and numbers are in the upper and lower margins in red uncials. The Eusebian section and canon numbers are in the side margins in red. There are rather copious lection notes in the margins and in the text. Iota subscript is not used; the adscript is used very sparingly but accurately. Accents and breathings are rather accurately used, as are also nu movables. The writing is very small but rather regular and easy to read. The ink is now dark brown and is well preserved. Abbreviations and shorthand signs are used with great frequency. O. T. quotations are marked ⸗. A few corrections have been made in the text and in the margins, some by the scribe and some later. Guide lines are no longer visible. The quires are made up of eight folios. Some of the quires and pages have been reinforced with

parchment. No quire numbers are left. The binding is a comparatively modern board one with leather back stamped in gold with some decorations and ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΩΝ ΜΕΜΒΡΑΙΝΟΝ. The outside front cover has the University of Chicago Library book place on it. The acquisition number is 879,920.

The manuscript contains the four Gospels complete. It contains the chapter titles for Matthew and Luke and Mark as far as KA. It contains a general introduction to the four Gospels and introductions for Matthew and Luke. The title pages for the four Gospels are illuminated in gold and colors. On f. 1b there is a fine old miniature on a gold background. The synaxarion and menology were written towards the end of the 15th century. The only significant colophons are the ones mentioned above.

The scribe was rather careful and did not make many itacisms or blunders. Tracing the attestation of 450 variants throughout the Gospels shows that 50% of them have Neutral support; 5%, Western; 22%, only Syrian; and 23% have no support noted in Tischendorf. The whole manuscript has 430 variants which are found in the Westcott and Hort text. Far more than half of the "singular" readings are short omissions; there are a few longer omissions by homoioteleuton and a few transpositions. I have not been able to make the text fit in with any of the recognized families. The pericope is almost exactly von Soden's M^{6} type.

The complete collation of this manuscript and the other two described in this paper may be found in the complete form of this thesis in the University of Chicago Library.

The Chrysanthus Gospels

This Manuscript is a codex of 400 folios. Ff. 1 and 2 are paper; the rest are of rather good quality parchment. The folios measure 20.3 by 14.5-15 cm. Each page contains one column of 16-20 lines, measuring 13.5-15 by 9.5-10 cm. The manuscript is the work of numerous scribes. Most of the hands are rather large and regular, though some are not quite so easy to read. The manuscript is to be dated about the 13th century. The ink, in various shades of brown and black, is well preserved. The quires contain 8 folios; no quire numbers appear now. Neat designs have been painted on the top and bottom edges. The binding is red velvet over wood. Only a few of the guide lines are visible, and they are irregular in relation to the lines. The chapter titles are in the top and bottom margins in red uncials. The Eusebian section and canon numbers are in red in the outer margin. There are a few lection marks in the text and margins in red and black ink. The marginal capitals are in red. The usual abbreviations are found, but few shorthand signs. There are the usual accents and breathings and a rather copious punctuation. Iota subscript is not used; the use of the adscript varies with the different scribes. A few corrections have been made by various hands in the margin and in the text. O. T. quotations are marked ⸗ in the margin.

Interesting features of the manuscript are the wealth of material that is contained in it, the finely illuminated title pages and the table of canons done in gold and colors, and the double sets of miniatures in gold and colors, found before the last three Gospels.

From our colophons we learn that the monk Chrysanthus, who once owned the manuscript, had some repair work done on it in the year 1700. This may have been the time when the leaves were cut down, the designs put on the edges, and the present binding put on. It was the time when the second set of miniatures was inserted to go with the original, flaked and faded ones, as can be seen from the colophon on the Mark insert dated Feb. 11, 1700. The second miniatures do not attempt to be copies of the first ones. The four Gospels are contained complete. There are many colophons throughout the manuscript, including two in Church Slavonic and a crudely written table for finding Easter. There are chapter title lists for Mt., Lk., and Jn. There are the regular "Isteon" introductions for Mt., Lk., and Jn., and a much longer Programma for Jn. The title page for Mt. has a miniature of the evangelist on the upper half; the title pages for the other Gospels are illuminated. The Library acquisition number is 900,659.

The text is not a very carefully written one. The work of some of the scribes contains more blunders and itacisms than that of others, but none of the scribes is especially good. I have traced the attestation of over 400 variants from chapters throughout the Gospels. Meaningless itacisms were neglected in this. 48% of the variants had Neutral attestation; 7%, Western; 22%, only Syrian; and 23% were singular as far as Tischendorf went. The whole manuscript contains 458 variants which are found in Westcott and Hort. The singular readings are of very little significance; there are many possible itacisms, many omissions of single words, many very short transpositions, and a few additions of unimportant words. The text will not agree with any of the recognized families. The pericope is closest to von Soden's M^{2} type, and next closest to M^{6}.

The Demetrius Gospels

This is a somewhat fragmentary parchment codex of the four Gospels. It contains 205 ff. measuring 21.5 by 16 cm. There is one column to a page, and it measures 14.5 by 10.5 cm. and contains 20 lines. The hand is rather large and regular. The rather frequent use of flourishes and enlarged letters gives it the appearance of being rather late, probably fourteenth century. The ink is brown and is well preserved. Many shorthand signs are used, as well as the regular abbreviations. The breathings and accents are rather accurately used. Iota adscript is never used, and the subscript is used very rarely. Punctuation marks are used freely. There are no capitals except those in red in the margin. The chapter titles are written in red uncials in the upper and lower margins. Through Mt. and Mk. the Eusebian section (but not canon) numbers are written in red in the side margins. There are some lection notes written in by various later hands, in red or black ink, in the margins or in the text. A few quire numbers are found; they begin anew in the synaxarion and menology. A regular quire contains 8 ff. The parchment is in a fair state of preservation. The binding is leather over wood and is in a very poor condition; some quires are entirely loose. Quotations from the O. T. are marked thus in the margin $\overset{s}{\varsigma}$. There is a partial list of the chapter titles for Mark. The Library acquisition number is 900,658.

Folios and even quires are missing throughout the manuscript, so that now about three-fourths of the four Gospels are present. The manuscript did not originally contain the pericope,

but when it was rebound at one time, the outside folios of a quire were removed and an extra leaf was inserted, becoming number two of the quire, and the pericope was written in in this extra space. This pericope has few variants from the T. R. and is very close to von Soden's M^{5} type; it is marked by dashes in the margin. The genealogy in Lk. is badly mixed up, because of the scribe going the wrong way part of the time in copying a genealogy arranged in two columns. There are a few colophons, but most of them are practically illegible. The one-time owner, Demetrius, copied his name several times on the last pages.

The scribe was rather careful and did not make many itacisms or blunders. Tracing the attestation for some 200 variants, I find that 50% have Neutral support; 11%, Western; 26%, only Syrian; and 13% are not found in Tischendorf. The singular readings are of very little importance. 333 of the variants of the manuscript are found in Westcott and Hort; as the manuscript is fragmentary, the complete form must have contained about 450. The manuscript fits in closely with Soden's K^{a} family as that is worked out by K. Lake. Lake determines his text by the agreement of any two of the three uncials, A, K, or Π. He gives a list of 7 mss. that he considers to be surely of the family; these are among the number for which he gives a complete collation for Mk. 11. Demetrius ranks high in comparison with these seven. The family could be tested this way only in Mk. 11, but the text of Demetrius could be compared with the K^{a} text reconstructed on the same standard, the agreement of any two of A, K, or Π. This shows that the family relationship is rather strong in Mk. and Lk., weak in Mt., and non-existent in Jn. for the four or five representative chapters tested from each Gospel.